



Welcome to New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park

Experience a Park in Partnership—Downtown, Waterfront, and Neighborhood. New Bedford was the mid 19th century’s preeminent whaling port and, for a time, “the richest city in the world.” Stroll down cobblestone streets, visit the world’s largest whaling museum, tour a whaling merchant’s home and whaleman’s chapel, and explore the docks of America’s number one fishing port. Walk in the footsteps of Herman Melville and Frederick Douglass and learn about a remarkable era.

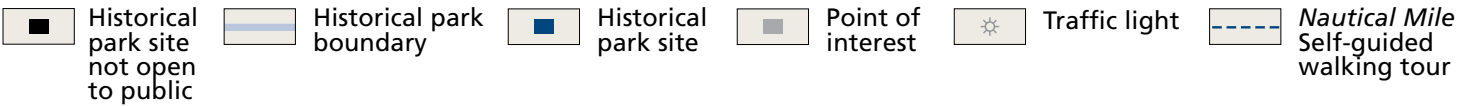
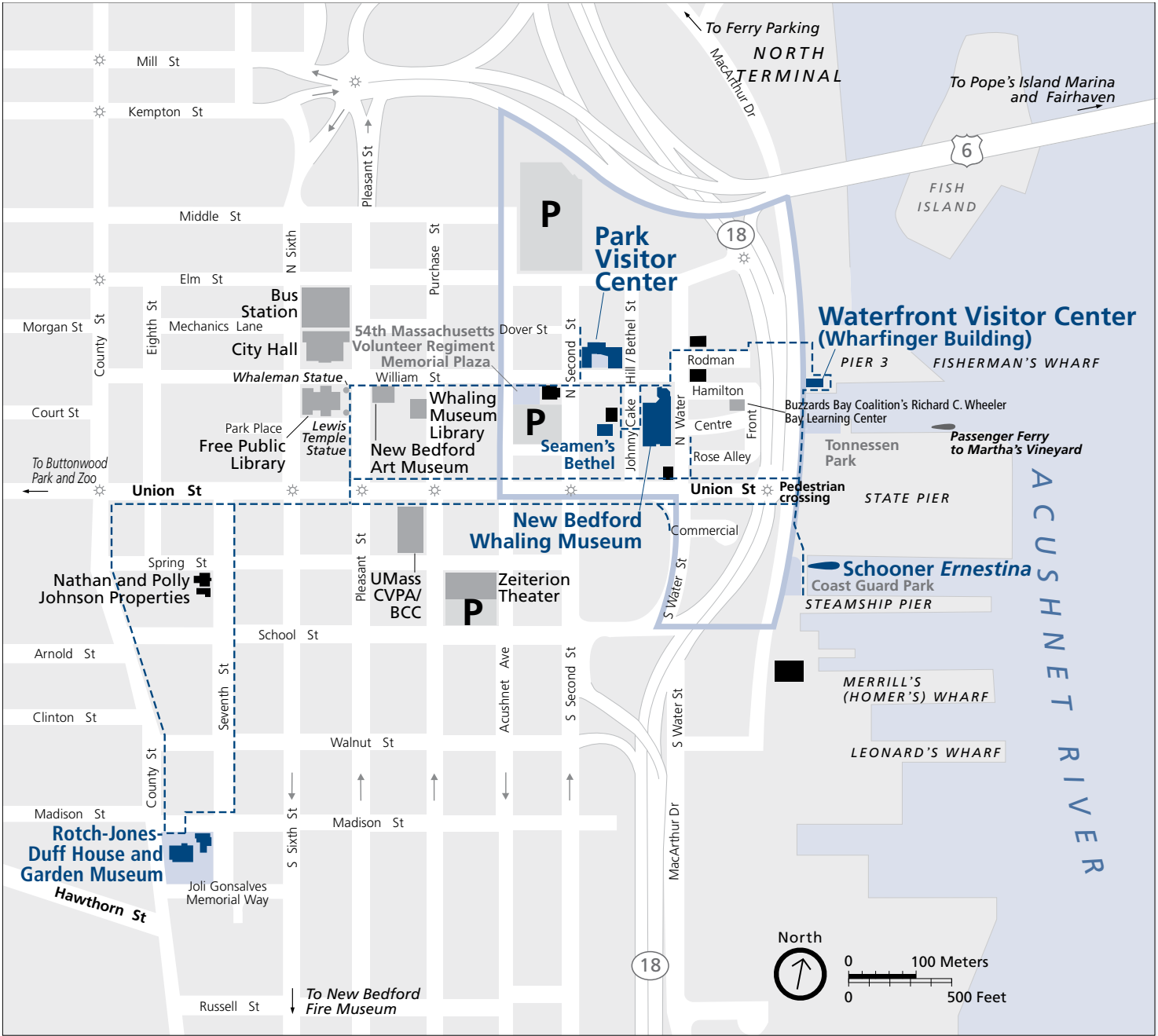


National Park Visitor Center and Corson Maritime Learning Center



Seamen's Bethel and Mariner's Home

Park Map and Nautical Mile Walking Tour



Waterfront Visitor Center



New Bedford Whaling Museum



Rotch-Jones-Duff House and Garden Museum



Schooner Ernestina

Daily Programs and Activities

NEW THIS SUMMER!



Tina Jackson, fisherwoman from Pt. Judith, RI spoke following the March screening of *Shipping Out: The Story of America's Seafaring Women*, a film by Maria Brooks.

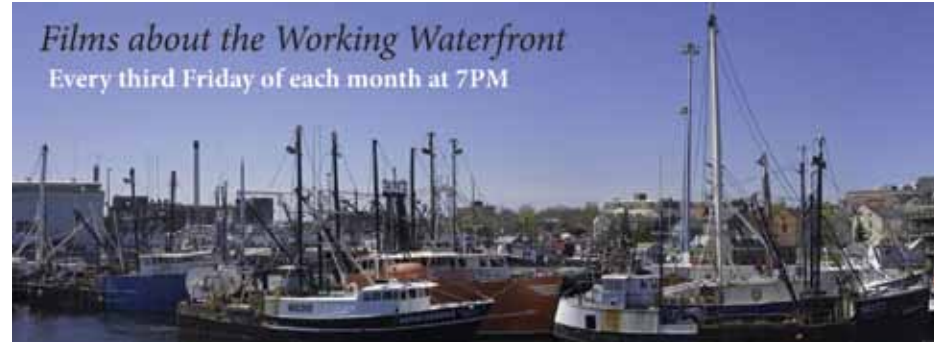


Working fishermen aboard the F/V Sea Escape featured in *Finest Kind*, a film by Standard-Times reporter Don Cuddy.

Dock-U-Mentaries

3rd Friday of each month

This year the park will present selections from the Working Waterfront Festival documentary film collection. The selections will include films on many aspects of the working port including life at sea, fishing families, marine ecology, fisheries science, regulations,



seafood cooking, and more. Many programs will be followed by a discussion. Some will include a panel from the local fishing community. Others will present a question and answer session with the filmmaker or a narrated slide talk on a particular theme.

Films will be screened beginning at 7:00 PM in the theater of the Corson Maritime Learning Center, located at 33 William Street in downtown New Bedford. July 15, August 19, and September 16.

Exploring the Home Port

4:00 PM daily

A new film series about people, places, and events in New Bedford's history. Topics include Frederick Douglass in New Bedford, the role of Cape Verdeans in whaling, and more. Shown at the visitor center (33 William Street) each day at 4:00 PM, 7 days a week, July 4—August 28.

Several free self-guided walking tour brochures are available for visitors who wish to explore the park at their own pace. The self-guided walking tours include: *New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park Map and Guide*; *The Underground Railroad: New Bedford*; *Herman Melville's New Bedford*; *Nautical Mile* (map on front of this publication); and *Working Waterfront Dock Walk*. Brochures and maps are available at the national park visitor center and the waterfront visitor center.

The City that Lit the World

10:00 AM – 3:00 PM daily

The park's official orientation film *The City that Lit the World* delves into the role New Bedford played in the whaling industry through multiple perspectives including ship captains and merchants, a whaleman's wife, diverse crewmen and laborers, the Inupiat people, and more.

The movie is free of charge and shown daily at the top of every hour between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. year round in the visitor center.



See *The City that Lit the World* in the Corson Maritime Learning Center theater.

Sites and Hours of Operation

National Park Visitor Center



The New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park Visitor Center and Corson Maritime Learning Center is a good place to begin your visit. Exhibits, programs, and park staff orient you to the homes of whaling's elite, business districts that supported the whaling industry, the chapel featured in Melville's *Moby-Dick*, and the world's largest whaling museum.



Hours
Open 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., 7 days a week, year round. Open 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. the second Thursday of every month for AHA! night and 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. every Thursday between July 10 and August 28. FREE
33 William Street
(508) 996-4095
www.nps.gov/nebe

New Bedford Whaling Museum

The New Bedford Whaling Museum holds the world's largest global whaling and maritime history collections, including a replica half-scale whaling ship, several rare whale skeletons, whaling implements, logbooks, and art.



Hours
Open 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., 7 days a week, year round. Open until 9:00 p.m. on Thursdays in the summer. Entrance fee. Jacobs Gallery, store, and orientation film are free.
18 Johnny Cake Hill
(508) 997-0046
www.whalingmuseum.org

Seamen's Bethel

Built in 1831 and once housing a school, seamen's register, library, and reading room, the non-denominational Seamen's Bethel still serves the seafaring community of New Bedford. This historical site provides a venue for joyous occasions such as weddings and baptisms as well as a somber setting for funeral and memorial services.



Hours
Open 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday Memorial Day through the end of October except during private services. FREE
15 Johnny Cake Hill
(508) 992-3295
www.portsociety.org

National Park Walking Tours



Guided Walking Tours

Free national park tours last approximately 45 minutes and step off from the national park visitor center at 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. July and August beginning July 4. The tours take visitors through the cobble-stoned streets of the park and waterfront, while exploring the many stories associated with New Bedford's maritime past and present.

National Park volunteers and rangers offer guided walking tours of the park seven days a week in July and August.



For Kids!

Junior Ranger Program

Pick up your free Junior Ranger activity booklet at the park visitor center. As you explore the park, complete the activities presented in the booklet. Once you have finished, return to the visitor center information desk to receive your official Junior Ranger badge and sticker. The Junior Ranger program is appropriate for children ages 5-12. For more information, inquire at the visitor center information desk.

Highlights Tour

Every Tuesday, July 12–August 23 at 2:00 p.m. Join a docent for a 45-minute tour that focuses on the highlights of the **New Bedford Whaling Museum's** collection. The tour will leave from the front desk

Family Programs at the New Bedford Whaling Museum

All family programs are free for children with a paid adult admission.

All Hands On

July 11–25 on **Mondays** from 10:00 a.m.–12:00 noon. Docents are available to answer questions, read stories about whales and whaling, and encourage children to investigate the contents of Discovery Sea Chests. Plan your arrival at any time during these hours and explore the museum at your own pace.

Science Tuesdays

July 26, August 2, 9, 16, 23, 1:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m. join the Museum's teen apprentices in the Jacobs Family Gallery as they examine and explain a variety of marine and whale science topics. These programs feature hands-on learning and keepsakes from the activities.

Scrimshaw

Every **Wednesday**, July 7–August 18 from 10:00 a.m.–12:00 noon. Be inspired by the Museum's wonderful collection of scrimshaw. Children will learn about the history of this beautiful craft as they create their own pieces to take home.

Sailors' Valentines

Every **Thursday**, July 14–August 25 from 10:00 a.m.–12 noon. Children will learn how to make Sailor's Valentines, traditional gifts whalemen gave their wives and sweethearts upon returning from a voyage. Take your valentine home as a keepsake.

All Aboard

Every **Friday**, July 15–August 26 from 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m. Here is an opportunity to be a whaling captain, a first mate, a whaleman, a cook or a captain's wife. Come to the Museum to dress as your favorite character and take an imaginary whaling voyage on the Lagoda! Experience the foc'sle, use the windlass, use some tools and artifacts of the whaling era and learn about whaling in New Bedford through role playing!



Waterfront Visitor Center

On New Bedford's waterfront you can walk about an active commercial fishing port. The exhibits in the city of New Bedford's Wharfinger Building (Waterfront Visitor Center) engage you in present-day commercial fishing, while outdoor displays at the water's edge offer glimpses into New Bedford's maritime past.



Hours
Open 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, Labor Day–late March. Open Monday–Wednesday 1–4, Thursday–Sunday 9–5 Memorial Day through Labor Day. FREE
52 Fisherman's Wharf-Pier 3
(508) 979-1745
www.newbedford-ma.gov

Rotch-Jones-Duff House and Garden Museum

A short walk from downtown leads to neighborhoods where both grand and modest homes were built during the whaling and textile eras. You will find the Rotch-Jones-Duff House and Garden Museum, which offers a chance to enter a 19th century whaling mansion built by the fortunes of whaling.



Hours
Open 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Sunday. Entrance fee.
396 County Street
(508) 997-1401
www.rjdmuseum.org

Schooner Ernestina

Built in Essex Massachusetts in 1894, the *Ernestina ex Effie M. Morrissey* is a National Historic Landmark and official vessel of Massachusetts. She fished the Grand Banks, explored the Arctic, and carried passengers

and cargo between the Cape Verde islands and southeastern New England. Her history is a remarkable legacy that spans continents, ethnic groups, and generations.

Hours
For visiting hours contact the Park Visitor Center at 508-996-4095.

State Pier, New Bedford
(508) 992-4900
www.ernestina.org



The City of New Bedford

Experience a City of Diversity

New Bedford’s active waterfront, cobblestoned streets, stately buildings, and inviting storefronts owe their existence to whales and whalemens. Though the age of whaling is long gone, its spirit lives on in New Bedford’s people and thriving commercial fishing industry.



Buttonwood Zoo features more than 150 animals. The zoo’s *Berkshires to the Sea* exhibition showcases native animals and habitats that span the Berkshire Mountains to Buzzard’s Bay, including mountain lions, black bears, bald eagles, river otters, harbor seals, and more.



North and south of the city’s downtown are vibrant **neighborhoods** offering a wide range of recreation, shopping, and cultural dining experiences. Annual festivals and parades celebrate the rich heritage of the region.



Fort Taber Park, located on Clarks Point, is an important site in the area’s military history, particularly during the Civil War. The park offers playgrounds, a military museum, bike paths, beaches, a refreshment stand, and sweeping views of Buzzards Bay and the Elizabeth Islands.



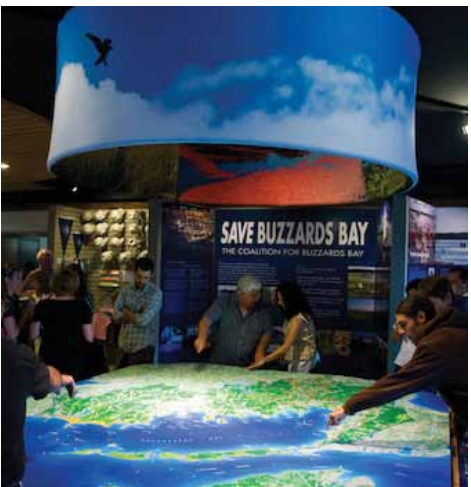
The Nathan and Polly Johnson House, a National Historic Landmark located at 21 Seventh Street, was the first free home of Frederick Douglass after his escape from slavery. New Bedford was home to some 300-700 escaped slaves between 1840 and 1860. This home is one of many sites associated with the Underground Railroad in New Bedford.



Several **art museums and galleries** highlighting contemporary and historic art created by local, national, and international artists, are within a short walk of the visitor center. Visit *ArtWorks!*, *Gallery X*, the *New Bedford Art Museum*, and *University Art Gallery* to discover the wealth of art in downtown New Bedford.



The **Ocean Explorium** offers an exciting new world of ocean and science discovery through its living exhibits, innovative children’s activity center and 3-D Science on a Sphere® exhibit. The Ocean Explorium is located in the New Bedford Institution for Savings building, a prominent architectural landmark in downtown New Bedford.



Come visit the **Buzzards Bay Coalition’s Richard C. Wheeler Bay Learning Center**, located at 114 Front Street, to learn all about the Bay and what you can do to protect it. With interactive exhibits, informational displays, and a gift shop this center is open 9-5 p.m. weekdays and for AHA! Nights.